

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PRS-01 SS-15 NSC-05 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 /052 W

-----131658Z 051189 /47

O R 131638Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8996

INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 09886

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, CF, GW, US

SUBJECT: U.S.-CONGO RELATIONS

REF: BONN 9552

1. THE FRG'S AMBASSADOR TO BRAZZAVILLE (DERIX) HAS
CABLED THE FOREIGN OFFICE ASKING WHEN HE IS TO BE
RELIEVED OF HIS RESPONSIBILITY FOR PROTECTION OF US
INTERESTS IN THE CONGO. SPECIFICALLY, HE WANTED TO KNOW IF HIS
MANDATE ENDED ON JUNE 15 AFTER PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF
NORMALIZED RELATIONS.

2. THE FOREIGN OFFICE TODAY (JUNE 13) INFORMED DERICX
TO CONSIDER HIS RESPONSIBILITIES UNCHANGED UNTIL
NOTIFIED OTHERWISE BY THE FOREIGN OFFICE. NEVERTHELESS,
THE FOREIGN OFFICE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY CLARIFICATION
FROM THE DEPARTMENT ON WHEN DERICX MAY EXPECT TO TURN OVER
HIS RESPONSIBILITIES TO A U.S. REPRESENTATIVE.

3. DERICX ALSO REPORTED THAT THERE WAS SOME IRRITATION
IN BRAZZAVILLE ABOUT LEAKS TO THE PRESS THAT U.S.-
CONGOLESE RELATIONS HAD INDEED BEEN NORMALIZED AS OF
JUNE 7. APPARENTLY THE CONGOLESE HAVE ACCUSED NO ONE
BUT LET IT BE KNOWN PRIVATELY THAT THE GERMAN SIDE WAS
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GUILTY OF AT LEAST SOME "INDISCRETION."

4. COMMENT: THE FOREIGN OFFICE IS ALSO NOT VERY HAPPY
WITH THE LEAKS. REACTION FROM THE CONGOLESE DESK:
"WE SHOULD HAVE TOLD OBENGA THAT THERE WERE PRESS
REPRESENTATIVES IN THE LUNCHEON ROOM."

5. ACTION REQUESTED: GUIDANCE FROM THE DEPARTMENT
ON WHAT WE CAN TELL THE FOREIGN OFFICE CONCERNING U.S.
PLANS FOR RELIEVING DERIX AND FRG OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR
PROTECTING U.S. INTERESTS IN THE CONGO.
STOESSEL

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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